

MINUTES
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA TRAINING CENTER
June 28, 2006

PRESENT: Donald Lyons, Chairperson
Denice Olinger, Vice-Chairperson
Joyce Bunn
Sandy Yates
Wilma Brown
Loretta Evans
Dr. Ohlen Wilson
Betty Meredith
Nan Neese, Regional Human Rights Advocate
Dr. Mark Witherspoon, Psychology Director
Dr. Rafael Semidei, Psychiatrist
Karen Poe, Staff Development Director

ABSENT: Charlotte Barkley
BJ McKnight, Human Rights Advocate

The Local Human Rights Committee for Southwestern Virginia Training Center met on Wednesday, June 28, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. in the IHP Review Room. Chairperson, Donald Lyons, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

On a motion by Dr. Wilson, and a second by Joyce Bunn, the minutes from the May 24, 2006, meeting were unanimously approved with one correction. The date of the next LHRC meeting should be corrected from June 21, 2006, to June 28, 2006.

Karen Poe introduced the Center's new Psychiatrist, Dr. Rafael Semidei, and gave highlights of his educational background and experience. The LHRC welcomed Dr. Semidei.

A motion was made by Wilma Brown and seconded by Denice Olinger that the Local Human Rights Committee go into Executive Session pursuant to VA Code 2.2-3711.A(4) and (15) for the purpose of hearing the Risk Manager's report, the VT Falls Project report, and reviewing the restrictive behavior plans and/or medication reviews of residents. Such review would necessarily involve discussion and consideration of mental and medical records which are confidential and exempted from the Freedom of Information Act.

Following reports by Sandy Cook, Risk Manager, and Karen Poe, Staff Development Director, the restrictive behavior plans of residents were reviewed.

After review in Executive Session, a motion was made by Denice Olinger, seconded by Sandy Yates, that the LHRC convene in Open Session. The motion carried.

Upon reconvening in Open Session, the Local Human Rights Committee unanimously certified that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements, and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the Executive Session, were discussed in the Executive Session.

On a motion made by Loretta Evans and a second by Dr. Ohlen Wilson, the LHRC unanimously approved as presented individual programs presented by first names and register numbers for residents of Connections, New Horizon, and Pathways Cottages with one follow-up report to be given at next month's meeting.

In response to a question Ms. Evans asked concerning the Center's Disaster Policy and upcoming disaster drill, Facility Director, Dale Woods, came in and addressed the group.

The Abuse/Neglect report by the Chief of Program Support Services was postponed until next month.

Also, the Advocate's Report was postponed until next month.

Nan Neese brought up the posting of the LHRC minutes on the facility web site. The LHRC will make a decision on this next month.

Nan further explained Ms. McKnight's absence. BJ McKnight, Human Rights Advocate, was appointed by the DMHMRSAS Commissioner to attend an important Leadership conference in Richmond representing the entire departmental advocacy team. She was nominated for this honor by the State Human Rights Director.

Ms. McKnight has sent a letter to the SHRC requesting reappointment for another term on the LHRC for Donald Lyons. His current term is expiring.

The next meeting of the LHRC is scheduled for Wednesday, July 26, 2006.

A motion was made by Loretta Evans and seconded by Sandy Yates that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried.